

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARAMA 00528 071803Z

46

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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R 031630Z OCT 75

FM AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2216

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMCONSUL CURACAO

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARAMARIBO 0528

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, NL, NS

SUBJ: COMPROMISE FORMULA MOOTED

REF: PARAMARIBO 0522

1. NPK SPOKESMAN FAVORS SUGGESTED COMPROMISE FORMULA AND PUTS ONUS FOR CONTINUING POLITICAL IMPASSE ON VHP LEADER LACHMON.

2. PRESS REPORTS DATED THE HAGUE ARE CURRENTLY GIVING ATTENTION TO COMPROMISE POLITICAL FORMULA INVOLVING A) NPK RECOGNITION OF AND AGREEMENT TO WORK WITH NPS FRACTION (COMPOSED OF NPK DEFECTORS LIESDEK-CLARKE, LIE KONG FONG AND SOMOHARDJO), IF NPS FRACTION WILL CHANGE ITS NAME, AND B) VHP AGREEMENT TO START UP DUTCH PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS ON INDEPENDENCE LEGISLATION BEFORE ADOPTION OF SURINAMESE CONSTITUTION, BUT FOR ALL PARTIES TO HOLD OFF FINAL ACTION ON INDEPENDENCE UNTIL CONSTITUTION IS SAFELY IN HAND.

3. STATEN (PARLIAMENT) CHAIRMAN EMILE WIJNTUIN HAS INFORMED ME THIS FORMULA WAS MOOTED AT RECENT CURACAO CONFERENCE (PARAMARIBO 0495) -- BY WHOM HE DID NOT SAY -- AND THAT HE WORKED HARD AFTER RETURN TO PARAMARIBO TO GET LACHMON'S AGREEMENT TO

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PAGE 02 PARAMA 00528 071803Z

IT. HE TOOK THIS INITIATIVE IN HIS CAPACITY AS STATEN CHAIR-

MAN, WHICH HE SEES AS POSITION OF TRUST ABOVE PARTISAN POLITICS, BUT MADE CLEAR THAT HE DID SO WITH NPK LEADERS' FOREKNOWLEDGE. LACHMON'S POSITION, ACCORDING TO WIJNTUIN, WAS THAT FORMULA WAS PREMATURE AND THAT HE COULD NOT AGREE TO IT WITHOUT SOUNDINGS HERE AND IN THE NETHERLANDS. FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF FORMULA ENDED IN RUSH OF VHP PARLIAMENTARIANS TO THE NETHERLANDS. MATTER IS NOW OUT OF HIS HANDS, WIJNTUIN BELIEVES. NEVERTHELESS, HE REMAINS OPEN TO INITIATIVES FROM LACHMON EITHER ON THIS OR ANY OTHER FORMULA THAT CAN BE DEvised TO END SURINAMESE PARLIAMENTARY IMPASSE.

4. WIJNTUIN WOULD NOT VENTURE PREDICTION ON OUTCOME OF THE IMPASSE, BUT HE THOUGHT LACHMON WAS NOT DEALING FROM AS STRONG A POSITION AS HE CLAIMS. LACHMON'S WHOLE STRATEGY, HE POINTED OUT, WAS BASED ON APPARENT CONTROL OF STATEN MAJORITY (20 OUT OF 39 VOTES). BUT WIJNTUIN WONDERED WHETHER LIE KONG FONG, THE MISSING MEMBER OF NPS FRACTION WHO MAY NOW BE IN THE NETHERLANDS, COULD BE DEPENDED UPON TO RETURN TO POLITICALLY HOSTILE ATMOSPHERE OF SURINAM TO CAST DECISIVE VOTE WHEN STATEN SITTINGS RESUME. WITHOUT LIE KONG FONG, LACHMON COULD DO NOTHING WITH RESULTING 19 TO 19 TIE VOTE.

5. WIJNTUIN SAID OFFICIAL STATEN DELEGATION, CONSISTING OF SEVEN MEMBERS AND ACCOMPANIED BY SEVERAL CABINET MINISTERS, WILL TRAVEL TO THE NETHERLANDS OCTOBER 10 OR 11 TO TAKE PART IN DUTCH PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS.

6. IN ABSENCE OF MANY OF THE POLITICAL PRINCIPALS, WIJNTUIN DISCOUNTED ANY EARLY ROLE FOR GOOD OFFICES COMMITTEE OF CLERGYMEN (PARAMARIBO 0495). STILL, HE SAID, COMMITTEE WAS AT WORK, HAVING CONSULTED WITH GOVERNOR JOHAN FERRIER, AMONG OTHERS.

7. COMMENT: WIJNTUIN IS COURTLY FIGURE, ENJOYING RESPECT AND AFFECTION OF DIVERSE POLITICAL GROUPS DESPITE HIS NPK CREDENTIALS, BUT HE IS NOT CONSIDERED TO BE NPK DECISION-MAKER. THUS, IT REMAINS BE SEEN TO WHAT EXTENT WIJNTUIN'S SPONSORSHIP OF ABOVE-MENTIONED FORMULA REFLECTS AN NPK COMMITMENT.
JACOBS

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